

control, and verbal audible announcements. It does not serve as prior art with respect to the present invention.

Bell et al (US 5,898,587) teaches a computer based scoreboard and display that compiles and displays player and team statistics during a game. The data is not entered by players and it is completely visual, as opposed to the audible announcements of the present invention. It does not serve as prior art for the present invention.

Twardowski (US 4,535,333) teaches a versatile transmit-receive system, a data transmission scheme. It has nothing to do with sports games, has no display or speakers, is not portable, and is unrelated to the present invention. It does not serve as prior art for the present invention.

Remarks

The essential difference between the present invention and prior art can be summarized as follows:

In the present invention, **players**, while playing, control a game timer and cause associated **audible announcements** to be broadcast, to keep other players and spectators informed.

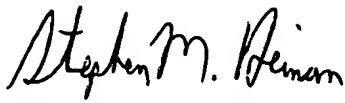
In prior art, **officials** control a game timer and cause associated **visual displays** to be seen, to keep players and spectators informed.

Conclusion

Applicants have rewritten the above claims in order to be responsive to Examiner's objection based on 35 U.S.C. 112 and MPEP § 2172.01. Claims 26-29 have been canceled, and applicants respectfully request that Claims 35-39 be considered in substitution of Claims 21-25.

Applicants have reviewed the cited references and have demonstrated that the cited references do not serve as prior art for the present invention.

Very respectfully,



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Date: 12/3/02

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